

APR 19 1924 ✓

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"A GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST" ✓

based on the novel by

Gene Stratton-Porter ✓

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"A GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST"

Story and scenario by Gene Stratton-Porter

Directed by James Leo Meehan

Photographed -

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Released - April 28, 1924.

Footage -

✓ Reels - 6 ✓

"A GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST"

C A S T

Elnora Comstock	Gloria Grey
Kate Comstock, her mother	Emily Fitzroy
Robert Comstock, her father	Arthur Carrier
Philip Ammon	Raymond McKee
Philip Ammon, Sr.	Arthur Millet
Hart Henderson	Cullen Landis
Edith Carr	Gertrude Olmsted
Wesley Sinton	Alfred Allen
Margaret Sinton	Virginia Boardman
Elvira Carney	Myrtle Vane
Freckles	Jack Daugherty
Freckles' Wife	Ruth Stonehouse
Freckles' Baby	Baby "Pat" O'Malley
Billy, aged 5 years	Buck Black
Billy, aged 9 years	Newton Hall
The Bird-Woman	Lisamae Grey
Snap, Billy's Dog	By Himself

"A GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST"

Elnora Comstock was a child of hate.

Born on the night her father met a tragic death in a quicksand pool in Limberlost swamp, close to the Comstock farm, Elnora grows up without mother love. For Kate Comstock's whole heart had been her husband's, and for sixteen years she has clung to the belief that had it not been for the baby's coming, she might have been strong enough to have saved Robert Comstock. So Elnora, unable to find companionship and love at home, seeks it among the things of the woods and the swamp.

Entering high school, in spite of vigorous parental objections, her simplicity and genuineness appeal to Philip Ammon, a senior, as in sharp contrast to the selfish snobbiness of Edith Carr, to whom he is engaged largely through an association which began in their childhood. Edith Carr is the daughter of a wealthy oil operator, pampered and accustomed to adulation and her own way. She bitterly resents Phil's interest in Elnora's struggle for an education in the face of poverty and parental wrath.

When it seems as though Elnora must abandon her efforts to get an education which would make her independent of her cruel mother, a chance comes to earn some needed funds. Wesley Sinton and his wife, neighbors who had tried in a small way to make up for the love Elnora never found at home, interest the Bird Woman, a professional naturalist, in Elnora. The Bird Woman teaches the girl how to collect and preserve valuable moths, and how to market them for other collectors.

As graduation time nears, Elnora needs only one moth to complete a collection worth several hundred dollars. With this money she hopes to enter college. Coming in from the woods, she discovers her mother unknowingly striking at the very moth she needs, which has climbed up the screen door. In the moment of excitement she commands her mother sharply to stop! Learning that she has the power of crushing the girl's hope of going to college, Kate Comstock deliberately crushes the moth before Elnora's eyes. The tragedy fans to flame the smouldering rebellion in Elnora's breast. She denounces her mother, and then flees hysterically to her refuge in the woods.

Mrs. Sinton, who witnesses this dramatic scene, concludes it is time to bring Kate Comstock to her senses. Whipping out her secret, from which she has shielded Mrs. Comstock for many years, like the snap of a rawhide whip, she stuns the woman with the announcement that Robert Comstock was a cheat! Kate Comstock prepares to kill Mrs. Sinton, but the little neighbor, thoroughly aroused, presents her irrefutable proofs. The man had been

illicitly courting Elvira Carney, a neighbor. He was sneaking home from there the night he lost his way and got caught in the quicksands!

The revelation is heartbreaking to the woman who has enshrined her husband's memory all these years. But Kate Comstock has always been methodical. Methodically, she disposes of what is left of Elvira Carney, and proceeded with all her energy to devote herself to Elnora, and making up for the twenty years of tragic neglect.

Meanwhile, during Philip Ammon's absence at college, Edith Carr has imperiously commanded the company of Hart Henderson, a young and successful business man, to keep her amused. However, Hart is only a diversion, and when Philip Ammon comes home from college to attend her graduation, their engagement is formally announced, in spite of constantly widening differences of interests between the two.

At the commencement ball, Philip Ammon rushes to the assistance of Elnora when the very moth she needs so badly floats into the ballroom. When he has succeeded in capturing the coveted moth for Elnora, he returns to Edith to tell her how much it will help the girl. She flings his engagement ring at his feet, ridicules him and tosses his love aside before the crowd of dancers. Her selfish superficiality revealed to him, Phil accepts her rejection and leaves the room. Nonchalantly, she beckons Hart Henderson to dance with her.

Edith's mother hurried the girl off to Europe a few days later to avoid gossiping friends, while seeks comfort from Elnora. But in seeking it, he quickly is convinced that it is Elnora who is his ideal. But Elnora, fearing it is just another lover's quarrel which will soon be patched up, holds aloof and gives only her friendship.

Edith returns later in the summer, determined to have Phil. She concludes in her egotistical way that she must save him from his mad infatuation over an inferior woman who would disgrace his home. Elnora would ruin his career, she tells herself. Boldly she goes for him, straight to the Comstock farm. Hart Henderson, who loves Edith, and admires Phil as his friend, goes in an effort to avert a scene. But Elnora needs no assistance. Edith comes off a bad second in her first tilt with "the country greenhorn".

Nevertheless, Elnora is secretly disturbed. She knows now that she loves Philip, but realizes the happiness of Edith, Phil and herself depend upon her decision. So she steals away on a visit to friends at Mackinac to think it all over, and incidentally to give Edith a free field to win Phil back -- if she can. It is a bold move, and in doing it she consults no one.

Worried and nervous over the complete disappearance of the girl he loves, Phil Ammon is an easy prey to disease, and becomes dangerously ill. In his delirium he wastes his precious strength crying for Elnora, and denouncing Edith as her imaginary kidnapper. Edith, finally awakening to realization of the impending tragedy, bends every effort to finding Elnora. Convincing Hart Henderson that the woman in her has at last awakened, and that she knows Phil's heart belongs to Elnora, he succeeds in locating Elnora. Bravely sacrificing her own love, Edith telephones Elnora to come home and save Philip.

But in these hours of trial, Edith comes to understand and appreciate the steadfast devotion of Hart Henderson, whom she had formerly regarded only as a plaything, a diversion. So when she and Hart call upon the convalescent Philip to announce their engagement, and find Elnora in Phil's arms, neither couple are surprised, though both are very happy.

The End.

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APR 19 1924

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April 19, 1924

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to.....
at.....

Signed Gene Stratton-Porter Inc
(Claimant of Copyright)

(Sept., 1922—500)

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APR 22 1924

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